



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0703

MAY 19, 2003

Spring Showers Slow Progress

Cool, and misty weather the past week halted progress on cutting and baling hay, and planting corn and soybeans. The wet weather allowed for only **3.8 days suitable for field work** for the week ending May 18, 2003. Air temperatures ranged from 50 to 72 degrees and soil temperatures averaged 65 degrees. Across the state the amount of precipitation received ranged from 0 to 1.8 inches.

Barley is almost all headed and will start to turn this week if the weather cooperates. Barley condition is 6 percent excellent, 57 percent good, 29 percent fair, 6 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. **Winter wheat** is behind barley by about two weeks with only 42 percent headed. The condition of the crop is 7 percent excellent, 49 percent good, 31 percent fair, 10 percent poor and 3 percent very poor.

Progress was made this week with more than 70 percent **corn** planted and 36 percent emerged. **Soybean** plantings increased five percent despite the wet weather. The first cut of other and alfalfa hay are behind by one to two weeks.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2003 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1998-2002
Small Grain Development:				
Barley Headed	94	73	97	97
Winter Wheat Headed	42	19	93	79
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloupes	54	39	55	64
Cucumbers	16	14	37	40
Field Corn	72	56	78	75
Lima Beans (ALL)	24	17	19	16
Potatoes	90	85	98	100
Snap Beans	20	14	30	30
Sorghum	15	12	8	9
Soybeans	11	4	18	14
Sweet Corn	48	40	68	65
Tobacco Transplanted	13	7	46	22
Tomatoes	62	47	63	65
Watermelons	60	33	35	47
Fruit Crops:				
Strawberries Bloomed	91	86	92	94
Strawberries Harvested	4	3	36	22
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay	12	11	31	30
Other Hay	14	10	27	25

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	-	52	48
Topsoil (2002)	1	13	76	10
Subsoil Moisture	-	2	75	23
Subsoil (2002)	4	49	43	4

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